

## **BRITISH LITERATURE**

**Grade: 9-12**

### **Course Description:**

This course will provide students with a chronological survey of the development of English literature, with emphasis on the major writers. It will also pay attention to the parallel developments in history, language, religion, and culture. We will begin with the Anglo-Saxon (Beowulf, Bede, Caedmon, etc) and continue into the 19<sup>th</sup> Century (Dickens, Austen).

Students from all grade levels (9-12) are welcome, provided they are capable readers, listeners, note-takers, and participators. **Writing instruction will be a natural byproduct of the course, so perfection (or expertise) in this area is in no way a prerequisite** (learning to think deeply and then write effectively about literature **is a process** that unfolds gradually). We will be reading some of the best essays, poetry, short stories, plays, and novels literature has to offer. Actually, we'll do much more than discuss it; we will dig into it, engage it, and (Lord willing) emerge with a greater sense of how truly enjoyable and enlightening a good read can be! There will be plenty of reading, some essay writing, a few quizzes/tests, and even a little acting so... come to class prepared to do more than listen!

### **Course Objectives:**

“Literature adds to reality, it does not simply describe it. It enriches the necessary competencies that daily life requires and provides; and in this respect, it irrigates the deserts that our lives have already become.” - C.S. Lewis

This course is designed to help students:

- Enjoy the act of discovery that awaits all astute readers of excellent literature in all its forms.
- Know the basic timeline of British historical events, ranging from the Anglo-Saxon period to the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.
- In a similar vein, be familiar with social, historical, and religious influences that shaped each period of British literature.
- Be able to critically analyze works of literature while discerning biblically its relevance to the Christian walk.
- Know the distinguishing characteristics of different literary genres and forms (i.e. epic, poetry, prose, etc).
- Read poetry with a greater sense of how to understand and appreciate it.
- Know the major artists of each time period and be familiar with the relevance of their major works.

**Cost per semester: \$100**

**Material/Admin fee per semester: \$15**

**Min. number of students: 12 (we need a good sized group for lively discussion)**

**Max. number of students: 20 (flexible)**

**Text: BJU British Literature 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (Additional text list will be updated prior to beginning of first semester.)**

**This is a two semester course and is worth ten units. A grade will be issued by the instructor at the end of each semester.**

**Instructor: Bob Dickson**

Mr. Dickson has been a professional writer since 1997 and an Adjunct/Associate Professor at The Master's College since 2002. At Master's he teaches English Composition, Linguistics, and Language Acquisition in the traditional (day) school. At night, he teaches the following classes in the college's Center for Professional Studies program: British Literature, Introduction to Literature, English Comp, Advanced Comp, Advanced Writing Development, Spoken Communication, and Organizational Communication. For six years he was a senior writer at *Grace to You*. He also spent five years as a sports writer for the Santa Clarita Signal. He now runs a freelance copywriting company (Bob's Word Factory).

Mr. Dickson graduated with MS, College Teaching of Language Arts, at Northeastern Oklahoma State University in 1996 and graduated with BA, English at University of California, Santa Barbara.

In 1993 Mr. Dickson was saved by the glorious grace of God. A year later he married his wife, Debbie, the wonderful and godly woman who shared the gospel with him in the first place. The Lord has blessed he and his wife with two beautiful daughters, Darragh (1996) and Melissa (2000). The Dickson family have served and worshipped at Grace Community Church since 1997.

**British Literature Registration Form**

The cost of this course involves a COURSE Fee and a CO-OP Fee for each semester. Checks for both Fees must be submitted with this registration form. Fees may be paid in installments, but **ALL installment payment checks MUST BE INCLUDED with this form and dated as shown below.**

- 1. **Payment of COURSE Fee: MAKE CHECK(S) PAYABLE TO BOB DICKSON  
ALL CHECKS DUE AT TIME OF REGISTRATION**  
 1 check in the amount of \$200 due at time of registration, OR  
 2 checks in the amount of \$100 (#1 check with registration date and #2 check Dated 1/1/10) OR  
 4 checks in the amount of \$50 (#1 check with registration date, #2 dated 11/1/09, #3 dated 1/1/10, and #4 check dated 3/1/10)
  
- 2. **Payment of MATERIAL/ADMIN Fees: CHECK(S) PAYABLE TO CASH**  
 1 check in the amount of \$30 due at time of registration, OR  
 2 checks in the amount of \$15 due at time of registration (#1 with date of registration and #2 dated 1/1/10)
  
- 3. **Payment of CO-OP Fees: MAKE CHECK(S) PAYABLE TO CASH**  
 1 check in the amount of \$16 due at time of registration, OR  
 2 checks in the amount of \$8 (#1 with date of registration and #2 dated 1/1/10)

**Tear off and return with ALL PAYMENT CHECKS mentioned above, plus SASE to:**

Susan Todd	28330 Gibraltar Lane, Castaic, CA 91384
Questions?	<u>SusanTodd@mail.com</u>

**Registration Dates: 6/1-6/15/09 and 8/27 – 8/30/09**

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**BRITISH LITERATURE**

<b>Parent's Names</b>	<b>Phone No.</b>
_____	_____

<b>Email</b> _____ <b>@</b> _____	
<b>Student's Name</b>	<b>Grade</b>

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**NEW TO APS? PLEASE CHECK HERE \_\_\_\_\_**